SAUNDERS REFUGIUM BOTANICUM VOLUME II

BY

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Volume two of Saunders Refugium Botanicum was issued in three parts. The dates of publication are open to doubt and have been a source of confusion. Fortunately Professor Ames' copy of the second volume contains the original covers and these materially help to establish the dates, but nevertheless fail to remove entirely uncertainty regarding the actual dates of issue.

The covers bear the following dates: Part 1, June 1869 containing plates 73 to 96 inclusive; Part 2, October 1872 (corrected in ink to August 1878) containing plates 97 to 120 inclusive; and Part 3, June 1882 containing plates 121 to 144 inclusive. A discussion of the accuracy of these dates seems to be necessary.

Part 1. Although the cover and plates are dated June 1869 the first notice regarding Part 1 seems to be in the Journal of Botany, volume 8 (March 1, 1870) 60 which reads, "The first part of the second volume of Mr. Wilson Saunders' Refugium Botanicum' has just appeared." From the evidence at hand it would seem that Part 1 did not appear until early in 1870.

Part 2. While the plates all bear the date of October 1872 the evidence seems to indicate that Part 2 was not issued until a much later date. In the copy of volume two at the Gray Herbarium there is a paster sent out by the publishers apologizing for the late appearance of this part. Furthermore, in the American Journal of Science and Arts, series 3, volume 8 (1879) 155 a review referring to volume two is in part as follows: "There is now a second part bearing the date 1878..." Consequently, it would seem advisable to accept August 1878 as corrected on the part cover in Professor Ames' copy as the actual date of publication.

Part 3. In spite of the fact that the plates of this part are dated November and December 1872, it seems certain that Part 3 did not appear until a much later date. In Just Jahresbericht for 1882 (volume 10, part 2 (1885) 76) there is a review and abstract of this part which definitely states the date of publication as 1882, which is in accordance with the date (June 1882) given on the cover of Professor Ames' copy.

Therefore, on the evidence at hand, it would seem that Part 1 appeared early in 1870; Part 2 in August 1878 and Part 3 in June 1882.